Increase in the Revenue from Road Transport

1471. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue accrued to the Centre from road transport has increased manifold compared to the expenditure on roads made by the Centre since 1951; and

(b) if so, what are the factual details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The collection of revenue on road transport and the expenditure on maintenance and development of roads are basically State subjects. The mode of collection of revenue on road transport is of different types such as octori, toll on bridges, passenger tax, permit fee, fees on motor vehicles etc. Further, these differ from State of State: Therefore, no consolidated record in this regard is available. However, it is estimated that the expenditure on roads and road transport is 30 per cent of the revenue collected on road transport.

Embargo by Gulf countries on Indian Ships

1472. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gulf countries enforced an embargo against Indian ships and vessels touching their shores and allowed their own ships to tough Indian ports following the recent outbreak of plague in India;

(b) if so, the loss incurred by Indian shipping companies and India's trade thereby; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to dispel their fears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Following the outbreak of plague in India a number of Gulf countries had imposed ban on Indian ships calling at their ports. The Government had taken up the matter with the Government of these countries through normal diplomatic channels and accordingly the Gulf Countries had lifted the ban in respect of Indian ships to call at their ports w.e.f. 6-10-94. However, it has not been possible to assess the loss incurred by the Indian shipping companies as the nature of loss is subjective.

Assistance to Andhra Pradesh for maintenance of National Highways

1473. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of national highways in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the central financial assistance provided to the State for the maintenance of national highways during 1993-94 and proposed to be provided during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 2888 Kms.

(b) Amounts of Rs. 1716.42 lakhs and Rs. 1621.55 lakhs have so far been released for maintenance and repairs of National Highways during 1993-94 and 1994-95, respectively.